

Remarks

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, and 18 have been amended. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,173,317 to Chaddha et al. (hereinafter “Chaddha”). Claims 5, 10 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaddha in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,007,098 to Smyth et al. (hereinafter “Smyth”).

A. Independent Claims 1, 8, and 18

Independent claims 1, 8, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chaddha. Because the Examiner rejected independent claims 1, 8, and 18 under section 102(e) on the basis of Chaddha, each element of these claims must be disclosed in Chaddha. Chaddha, however, does not disclose each element of independent claims 1, 8, and 18, as amended. Specifically, Chaddha does not disclose that the thin media client is not responsible for performing any pre-processing functions related to the data stream transmitted to the thin client.

In accordance with the present invention, a thin media client renders a data stream that comprises a media stream that has been previously pre-processed by a separate data processing device. (Specification, [0007]) The thin media client “is not involved in the pre-processing of the data stream,” and “is not responsible for any of the pre-processing tasks related to the data stream, including the mixing, demultiplexing, or encoding of the data.” (Specification, [0007]) Additional pre-processing tasks performed by the data processing device, and **not** by the thin media client, include decoding, decryption, encryption, attenuation, and amplification of data streams that are transmitted to a thin media client for rendering. (Specification, [0016]) The

advantage of not performing these pre-processing tasks at the thin media client is that the thin media client may be optimized to perform the task of rendering design in a specific, predetermined format, thereby reducing the amount of data that must be transferred to the thin media client. (Specification, [0013], [0007], and [0008]) Additionally, the processing power and hardware functionality required by the thin media client is also greatly reduced, thereby reducing the costs associated with the system of the present invention as compared to the prior art.

In contrast to the present invention, Chaddha fails to teach or disclose a thin media client that is *not responsible* for performing any pre-processing functions related to the data stream transmitted to the thin client. Specifically, the client computer 240 of Chaddha is **responsible** for performing pre-processing functions related to a data stream transmitted to the client computer.

The client computer 240 of Chaddha contains video/audio decoders 964 and an annotation interpreter 963 in a client module 960, clearly indicating that the client computer performs pre-processing functions related to the data stream. (Figure 9) Chaddha states, “. . . client module 960 is now loaded over web browser 950 for **processing video/audio and annotation streams** (step 1020).” (8:14-18, emphasis added) Additionally, encoded **video/audio streams are decoded** by client computer decoder 964 in step 1040. (Figures 9 and 10, 8:60-64) Chaddha states that event data and event locator contents of annotation frames are “simply arguments to be passed on to client computer 240 to be **processed** by client computer 240.” (9:14-17) It is clear that the client computer of Chaddha performs various processing and decoding tasks associated with the video/audio streams. Emphasizing this is the fact that the client computer 240 of Chaddha may be implemented as a full personal computer system 100 including a display screen, a printer, a floppy disk drive, a hard disk drive, a network interface,

and a keyboard, among other elements. (Chaddha, 5:15-16 and 3:64 - 4:10) Thus, the client computer 240 of Chaddha may be a full personal computer, and this client computer performs various processing and decoding tasks associated with the video/audio data stream, in direct contrast to the claims of the present invention. Chaddha fails to teach or disclose a thin media client that is *not responsible* for performing any pre-processing functions related to the data stream transmitted to the thin client. The client computer of Chaddha does not provide the advantages of the thin media client of the present invention, namely those of reduced processing power and bandwidth requirements for the thin media client.

Because Chaddha fails to teach or disclose the claimed element of a thin media client that is *not responsible* for performing any pre-processing functions related to the data stream transmitted to the thin client, Chaddha fails to support a finding of anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Applicants request that the rejections of independent claims 1, 8, and 18 be withdrawn.

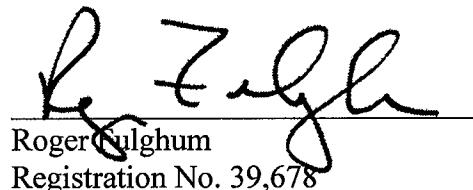
B. Dependent Claims 2-7, 9-17, and 19-25

Claims 2-7, 9-17, and 19-25 will not be discussed individually herein, as they depend from otherwise allowable base claims.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-25 should be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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